## **Sheri Collins**

Deputy Secretary, Office of Technology & Innovation Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

In her role as Deputy Secretary of Technology & Innovation at the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), Sheri Collins is responsible for fostering innovation and entrepreneurship to ensure the success of Pennsylvania's business community.

Sheri oversees a number of economic development tools designed to market the commonwealth as a premiere destination to start and grow a business. And, in her capacity, Deputy Secretary Collins has the distinct privilege of serving as the Governor's State Alternate to the Appalachian Regional Commission. In this position, Sheri oversees investments in projects and initiatives across Pennsylvania's 52 Appalachian counties designed to improve the quality of life for citizens in our most rural areas.

Sheri joined DCED in 2004 to administer the Keystone Innovation Zone program, a newly launched technology-based economic development initiative designed to promote collaboration between the private sector and Pennsylvania's colleges and universities.

Sheri has dedicated her professional career to public service starting in 1986 with the Pennsylvania State Employees' Retirement System. At the State Employees' Retirement System, she served as the special assistant to the chief counsel and was focused on the SERS Investment Office and its programs.